

2006 HIGH SCHOOL CONCERTO COMPETITION

We encourage talented high school musicians to apply today for our 2006 High School Concerto Competition. Application materials must be received by April 3. The final round is scheduled in the Sail Loft for Saturday, April 29. Winners will perform with the United States Navy Band in concert at West Springfield High School, Springfield, Va., on May 19 at 7:30 p.m. Check our website for further details.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND HAS OPENINGS FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED INSTRUMENTALISTS AND VOCALISTS.

CONCERT/CEREMONIAL BAND  
Flute .....April 21, 2006

SEA CHANTERS CHORUS  
Alto vocalist .....April 28, 2006  
Tenor vocalist .....April 28, 2006  
Bass vocalist .....By Appointment

STAFF  
Sound Support Engineer . .May 2-4, 2006

For more information call:  
Master Chief Musician Stuart McLean,  
Audition Supervisor at (202) 433-2840.  
Or email:  
navyband.auditions@navy.mil.

NAVY BAND TOURS NORTHEAST

Captain Ralph M. Gambone leads the United States Navy Band on tour throughout the Northeast. With exciting ensemble playing and brilliant soloists, you will hear why the Band has been called "the World's Finest!" The concerts feature stirring Sousa marches and dramatic musical portraits of both sea and space. Cruisers' lead vocalist and unit leader, Chief Musician John L. Fisher recreates hits by such legends as Louis Armstrong, Ray Charles, Bobby Darin, Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. This month's performance calendar lists tour dates. Check our website for updates.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The United States Navy Band  
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.  
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054

Official Business

DATED MATERIAL  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...

musicians. Our first concert was at Lincoln Center performing with Wynton Marsalis and the Juilliard Orchestra!

What are your thoughts on the Commodores' newest CD, *Three Shades of Blue*?

It's inspiring to be in a band with so many members contributing arrangements and compositions. I look forward to writing more music for the Commodores and am pleased with how my arrangement of "Freight Trane" turned out. Any hobbies?

Playing and checking out live jazz! I really enjoy running, yoga, hanging out with friends and cooking for them...especially if they're willing to try my new recipes! And, finally, visiting my family in San Diego - I can't get out there enough.

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MARCH/APRIL 2006 • VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 2



"SEA CHANTERS"  
CHORUS  
TURNS 50!



In 1956, Navy Band assistant leader Lt. Harold Fultz organized a group from the Navy School of Music in Anacostia to sing chanteys for the State of the Nation dinner at the Statler Hotel in Washington, D.C. An immediate success, Admiral



Navy Band Sea Chanters official portrait in 1957.

U.S. Navy file photo



Perry Como and Kenny Rogers join the Sea Chanters in an Easter Special televised in 1978.

U.S. Navy file photo

such legends as Marian Anderson, Kate Smith, Perry Como, Burl Ives, Kenny Rogers and others.

Women joined the group in 1980. The mixed chorus continued the musical traditions, including performances in the distinctive 1812

uniform, and expanded the

repertoire to support their myriad of duties as a presidential support unit.

Today's Sea Chanters chorus continues to entertain heads of state and school children alike, performing in prestigious concert

sites from Carnegie Hall to The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, with major orchestras such as the Boston Pops Esplanade and the Cincinnati Pops, and for historic events from presidential inaugurations to national services of remembrance.



Navy Band Sea Chanters official portrait in 1983.  
U.S. Navy photo by MU1 Robert Goodyear, USN (Ret.)

Performance Calendar

The U.S. Navy Band and specialty groups present the following FREE concerts. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (\*). For more information call (202) 433-2525.

MARCH

CEREMONIAL  
BAND

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 12:30 P.M.  
"ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE"  
Old Town Alexandria  
King and West Sts.  
Alexandria, Va.

SEA CHANTERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 3 P.M.  
Oakdale Emory

United Methodist Church  
3425 Emory Church Road  
Olney, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 8 P.M.  
Chesapeake Arts Center  
194 Hammonds Lane  
Brooklyn Park, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT  
BLUEGRASS  
QUINTET

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 7:30 P.M.\*  
Navy Museum (Bldg. 76)  
Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D.C.

\*For FREE reservations call  
(202) 433-6897.

APRIL

NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 8 P.M.\*  
College of Southern Maryland  
Fine Arts Center  
8730 Mitchell Road  
La Plata, Md.

\*For FREE ticket information  
call (301) 934-7828  
or visit [www.csmd.edu/finearts](http://www.csmd.edu/finearts)

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 7:30 P.M.  
Colonial Forge High School  
550 Courthouse Road  
Stafford, Va.

CEREMONIAL  
BAND

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1 P.M.  
"BLESSING OF THE FLEET"  
Navy Memorial  
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

SEA CHANTERS

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 7 P.M.  
"50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT"  
University of Maryland  
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center  
Elsie & Marvin Dekelbourn  
Concert Hall  
College Park, Md.

COMMODORES

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 8 P.M.  
University of Mary  
Washington Jazz Festival  
Dodd Auditorium  
1301 College Ave.  
Fredericksburg, Va.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1 P.M.  
"Jazz Appreciation Month"  
National Museum of  
American History  
Camichael Auditorium  
14th St. & Constitution Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

CRUISERS

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, NOON  
"BLESSING OF THE FLEET"  
Navy Memorial  
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 7:30 P.M.\*  
Navy Museum (Bldg. 76)  
Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D.C.  
\*For FREE reservations call  
(202) 433-6897.

LOOKING AHEAD  
TO MAY

NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 7:30 P.M.  
Bishop Ireton High School  
Garwood Whaley Auditorium  
201 Cambridge Road  
Alexandria, Va.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 8 P.M.  
North County High School  
10 East First Ave.  
Glen Burnie, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 6 P.M.  
"SOLOMONS FOLK LIFE  
FESTIVAL"  
Calvert Marine Museum  
Solomons Island Road (Route 2)  
Solomons, Md.

NAVY BAND 2006  
SPRING TOUR

The Navy Band departs March 8 on a 26-day tour through Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey. The following is a list of tour performances.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 7 P.M.  
Johnstown High School  
Cochran Auditorium  
Johnstown, Pa.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 7:30 P.M.  
Hickory High School Auditorium  
Hermitage, Pa.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 7:30 P.M.  
Butler Intermediate High School  
Butler, Pa.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 8 P.M.  
Wesley Chapel Auditorium  
Houghton, N.Y.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 3 P.M.  
S.U.N.Y. Fredonia  
King Concert Hall  
Fredonia, N.Y.

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 7:30 P.M.  
Shea's Performing Art Center  
Buffalo, N.Y.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 7:30 P.M.  
East Middle School  
Emerson Auditorium  
Auburn, N.Y.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 7 P.M.  
Jefferson Community College  
Gymnasium  
Watertown, N.Y.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 7:30 P.M.  
The Paramount Theatre  
Rutland, Vt.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 7:30 P.M.  
Manchester Central High School  
Manchester, N.H.

CONTINUED INSIDE...

United States Navy Band • Washington, D.C.

Captain Ralph M. Gambone, USN • Officer in Charge/Leader

All concert information is accurate at time of publication, though subject to change due to weather and other conditions. For concert updates call the 24-hour Navy Band Performance Calendar at (202) 433-2525, or visit us on the web at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil).



CAPTAIN’S MESSAGE

Dear patron, I invite you to share in the wide variety of exciting music we will be performing over the next few months.

The Ceremonial Band steps off March 4 as part of Alexandria’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade. April 8 finds them at the U.S. Navy Memorial for the annual “Blessing of the Fleet.” Between times, as always, these dedicated musicians will participate in official ceremonies such as arrivals, retirements and funerals.

The Navy Band and specialty groups will be in public performances in D.C. and throughout the region. April is Jazz Appreciation Month. You’ll want to hear the Commodores, so check our performance calendar for details of their concerts at the Smithsonian and in Fredericksburg. You can preview their newest compact disc recording, *Three Shades of Blue*, on our website at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil)

The Concert Band leaves shortly to tour the Northeast. As always, we’re excited to bring our music to those beyond the beltway. The Sea Chanters will be ahead of us, having left in late February. We’ll all be back in time to celebrate their golden anniversary with a gala concert on April 8.

The “Sea Chanters” chorus marks 50 years of service to America this year. Born of a “right idea” for a special event, they’ve been entertaining audiences since 1956. Growing up in Navy Music, I was aware of them even before my tours of duty with the Band. As leader, it is my pleasure to work with these amazing voices. Be sure to join us for their special day at the Clarice Smith Center on April 8, throughout the summer and as part of the Alumni Concert in August. Their newest recording, *Homeward Bound*, pays tribute to their musical traditions and reminds us how honored we are to serve our nation through music.

I encourage you to come out and hear one of our Navy Band ensembles. As always, we appreciate your support.

*Ralph M. Gambone*

Ralph M. Gambone, Captain, USN  
Officer in Charge/Leader



NOTABLE QUOTES

*"The Navy Band Holiday Concert was the finest overall production of a Navy Band/Choir/Specials/Video support event that I have ever attended.... Every selection was superb! ... The whole production was Kennedy Center quality!!"*

Rear Admiral Robert F. Burt, CHC, USN  
Chaplain of the Marine Corps/Deputy Chief of Navy Chaplains

*"I was completely blown away! ... Your performance with guest star Bruce Johnstone was by far the best I have seen.... It was fantastic!"*

Fan from Greensboro, N.C., at the 29th International Saxophone Symposium

*"Without a doubt, their music was the best we have ever heard."*

Fans from the "Music in the Mountains" bluegrass festival in W.Va.

*"I liked the songs you did. I sang along with you. Thank you for showing us the instruments and telling us what they were called. I liked the finger song and the animal song. I hope you come back."*

First grade fan of a "Music in the Schools" bluegrass performance

FEATURES/CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

SEA CHANTERS PASS THE TORCH

The Navy’s official chorus marks their golden anniversary in 2006. The original 16 men were tasked with perpetuating the songs of the sea. The “Sea Chanters” chorus has evolved to include female voices, thrived in a wide variety of styles and is flourishing in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as a vibrant ensemble.

Senior Chief Musician Russell J. Rathier leads today’s mixed chorus. He credits their ongoing success to an “abundance of talent, which we actively recruit from among the best voices in America today.” Music Director Chief Musician Keith D. Hinton notes that most have advanced degrees not only in music, but also specifically in choral singing. “Many come with resumes from the world stages and are fluent in multiple languages.” He, along with Chief Musician Michael B. Roberts, heard a remarkable talent in Texas. After a successful audition, Musician First Class Benjamin L. Bransford III joined the tenor section in 2004. Today, he also serves as assistant conductor. “Every performance, whether large or small, is a new experience. Seeing the appreciative faces of veterans and their families during and after a performance always touches me deeply. I am extremely proud to be part of



Members of the “Sea Chanters” chorus (and “Cruisers” contemporary music ensemble) perform live on The Mall in Washington, D.C., as part of the Independence Day Celebrations last summer.  
U.S. Navy Photo by MUCS Christopher Erbe

such a wonderful and important service to the citizens of our nation.” Chief Musician Alison A. Turk, one of the original women Sea Chanters, understood this pride for 24 years. She recently retired from a distinguished career, serving in many capacities both on and off stage. Thousands enjoyed her performances, including three presidents, three vice presidents and six Chiefs of Naval Operations. The personal investment of Sea Chanters seeking the next generation of singers insures the torch is passed to candidates with outstanding voices, musicianship and character. Retired Chief Musician Linda F. Teasley recruited in-demand soprano soloist, Susan E. Lewis. “A month after joining the group, we performed with my idol Renee Fleming at the Washington Nationals opening game. I worked up the nerve to approach her and thanked her for being such an

inspiration to me.” Musician First Class Caroline A. Koziol has found inspiration in her predecessor, Sea Chanter pianist Chief Musician Sharon E. Barry. “She did an exceptional job of preparing me for all aspects of this challenging, highly rewarding career.” Chief Barry sought to guide and support new Sea Chanters. “The demands of my position are unique. In order to program the widest possible variety of music, there are quite a few small ensembles within the Sea Chanters. Versatility is a must!” Senior Chief Rathier boasts, “Versatility and excellence are the hallmarks of any concert by the Sea Chanters chorus. Being able to offer these talented musicians an opportunity to use their skills to support this nation is a great feeling. Come, hear for yourself and enjoy an unforgettable performance in this, our 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to America.” ff

**SEA CHANTERS CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY on Saturday, April 8, 2006** at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Maryland (College Park). Don’t miss a “golden” opportunity to spend a day with this world-class ensemble. Observe how a professional chorus prepares for a performance in an open rehearsal at 11 a.m. Explore the artistic details in clinics with special guest, Dr. John Dickson at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Hear how it all comes together in the gala concert at 7 p.m. All events are free and open to the public. Additional details will soon be available on the web at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil). Information about Alumni Concert events will be featured in your July/August edition of fanfare.

SCHEDULE CONTINUED

- SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 3 PM.**  
Ellsworth High School  
Ellsworth, Maine
- MONDAY, MARCH 20, 7 PM.**  
Maine Center for the Arts  
Orono, Maine
- TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 8 PM.**  
Jordan Hall  
Boston, Mass.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, NOON**  
Mechanics Hall  
Worcester, Mass.
- THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 7:30 PM.**  
Manchester High School  
Bailey Auditorium  
Manchester, Conn.
- FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 7 PM.**  
Taunton High School Auditorium  
Taunton, Mass.
- SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 7:30 PM.**  
Ayer High School Auditorium  
Shirley, Mass.
- SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 7 PM.**  
Ridgefield High School  
Richardson Auditorium  
Ridgefield, Conn.
- MONDAY, MARCH 27, 7:30 PM.**  
Poughkeepsie High School  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 7 PM.**  
Lackawanna College  
Mellow Theater  
Scranton, Pa.
- THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 7:30 PM.**  
Orefield Middle School  
Orefield, Pa.
- FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 7:30 PM.**  
Central Bucks West High School  
Doylestown, Pa.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 7 PM.**  
Bensalem High School Auditorium  
Bensalem, Pa.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2 PM.**  
Seneca High School  
Tabernacle, N.J.

freelancing, studying and playing jazz with some of my idols, I was accepted to the Juilliard School of Music in their inaugural class of jazz studies. Upon completion of the Juilliard program, I auditioned for the Commodores, and here I am! **Why jazz?** I have loved music from as long as I can remember, but after hearing my first jazz concert, I was hooked. It also helped that my community really supported jazz in the schools, so I had a lot of exposure to great music early on. **Share with us your time at Juilliard.** The Jazz Studies department at Juilliard provided a great opportunity to have daily interaction with many of today’s best jazz players. Every week a different jazz legend would come in to teach a master class. Due to the small size of the class, we were able to pick their brains, get feedback on the music and hear about their life experiences first hand. Many of us formed strong relationships with these legendary

CONTINUED ON BACK PANEL...

WELCOME ABOARD TO...

**Lieutenant Michael S. Grant**, who joins the Navy Band as Supply Officer and Associate Conductor...and to **Musicians First Class Jason Ayoub**, French horn instrumentalist with the Navy Band, **Eileen J. Bedlington**, trumpet instrumentalist with the Navy Band, **Casey J. Elliot**, alto vocalist with the Sea Chanters and **Philip G. Scoles**, trumpet instrumentalist with the Navy Band.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

**Musician First Class Luis Hernandez**, saxophonist with the Commodores on his selection as "Sailor of the Year" for 2005...and to **Chief Musicians David E. Morse, Christopher J. Raifsnider, Scott A. Silbert, Juan Vazquez** and **Jaime W. Way** on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal...and to **Musicians First Class Jennifer A. Bowerman, Edward Daryl Duff, Emily J. Dickson, Kristin A. Pagent** and **Suzanne N. Rice** on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL TO...

**Chief Musician Richard P. Bell**, trombone instrumentalist with the Navy Band, who received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 24 years of service.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

April is Jazz Appreciation Month and so we turn the spotlight on **Musician First Class Jennifer J. Krupa**, the newest addition to the “Commodores” jazz ensemble’s trombone section. Her outstanding playing, coupled with her gifted arranging skills, contributed to the success of the group’s newest recording, *Three Shades of Blue*. **Tell us a little bit about yourself.** Originally from Hemet, Calif., I went to the University of North Florida and received my bachelor's degree in jazz studies. After graduation, I performed at Universal Studios, Walt Disney World and with the orchestras of Benny Goodman and Larry Elgart. I then moved to New York to obtain my master's degree. After

